

The first report of the Seychelles Bird Records Committee

Adrian Skerrett

The Seychelles Bird Records Committee was formed in 1992. Its first task was to draw up two lists of the birds of Seychelles: one list for species considered to be resident, annual breeding visitors and annual migrants for which records were not required, and one list for species of less than annual occurrence for which records should be submitted. Notices were then posted in the world's leading bird journals and magazines appealing for past records, and advertising the availability of lists to interested parties.

The original list of species of less than annual occurrence had been based on collected published and unpublished information. However, critical examination of some records (including some published records) led to their rejection, while new records of species never previously reported from Seychelles were received and accepted by the Committee. Since this original list made no attempt to indicate the relative scarcity of each species, it is now considered to be of little value.

The following report combines the list of species of annual occurrence with records accepted up to 31st

December 1995 for species of less than annual occurrence. Records are required for all vagrants and, of course, any species which does not appear in the report. In addition, records of other species which may be seen outside their normal range are required. For example, Black-naped Tern (*Sterna sumatrana*) breeds in the Amirantes and further west, but records are required east of the Amirantes, that is, the granitic islands, Bird, Denis, Platte and Coetivy.

For each vagrant, the following details are given:

- the number of accepted records to date
- the months of the year in which these records occurred
- the islands on which records occurred
- in brackets, the total number of individuals concerned

For the purposes of this publication, the nomenclature policy of the African Bird Club has been employed.

The Seychelles Bird Records Committee is sponsored by Cousine Island.



Southern Giant Petrel *Macronectes giganteus*, Mahe, August 1992 (Adrian Skerrett)

Southern Giant Petrel *Macronectes giganteus*

Vagrant. One record: July–Oct. Mahe (1).

Pintado Petrel (Cape Pigeon) *Daption capense*

Vagrant. One record: Sept. Between Cosmoledo and Assumption (1).

Jouanin's Petrel *Bulweria fallax*

Vagrant. Four records: Oct, Nov, Dec, Feb. Near Aldabra 1, between Farquhar and Desnoeuvs 3 (9).

Flesh-footed Shearwater *Puffinus carneipes*

Vagrant. Two records: May, Oct. Between Fregate and Recif 1, and near Farquhar 1 (2).

Wedge-tailed Shearwater *Puffinus pacificus*

Breeds Aride, Cousin, Cousine, Bird, Recif, St Joseph Atoll, Desnoeuvs, Marie-Louise and possibly elsewhere.

Audubon's Shearwater *Puffinus lherminieri*

Breeds Aride, Cousin, Cousine, Bird, Desnoeuvs, Marie-Louise, Aldabra and possibly elsewhere.

Wilson's Storm-Petrel *Oceanites oceanicus*

Vagrant. Three records: Oct, Nov. Near Bird 1, near Farquhar 1, near Desnoeuvs 1 (7).

Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*

Vagrant. One record: Dec. South-east Island/Mahé (1).



Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*, Roche Caiman, Seychelles, December 1993 (Adrian Skerrett)

Red-billed Tropicbird *Phaethon aethereus*

Vagrant. Two records: Jan–Dec. Aride 1, Bird 1 (2).

Red-tailed Tropicbird *Phaethon rubricauda*

Breeds Aride, Aldabra, Cosmoledo. Annual visitor to rest of Seychelles.

White-tailed Tropicbird *Phaethon lepturus*

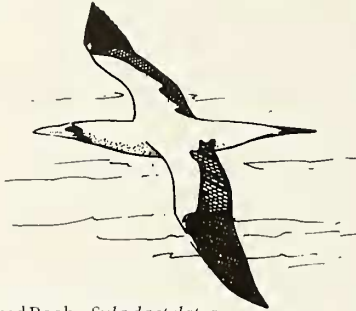
Breeds Mahe, Praslin, Fregate, Aride, Cousin, Cousine, Silhouette, Aldabra and possibly elsewhere. Annual visitor to rest of Seychelles.

Red-footed Booby *Sula sula*

Breeds Aldabra, Cosmoledo and possibly Farquhar. Annual visitor to rest of Seychelles.

Masked Booby *Sula dactylatra*

Breeds Desnoeufs, Boudese, Cosmoledo. Annual visitor to rest of Seychelles.



Masked Booby *Sula dactylatra*
Mark Andrews

Brown Booby *Sula leucogaster*

Breeds Desnoeufs and Cosmoledo. Annual visitor to rest of Seychelles.

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Vagrant. One record: Jan. Near Cousin (1).

Greater Frigatebird *Fregata minor*

Breeds Aldabra. Annual visitor to rest of Seychelles.

Lesser Frigatebird *Fregata ariel*

Breeds Aldabra. Annual visitor to rest of Seychelles.

Yellow Bittern *Ixobrychus sinensis*

Breeds Mahe, Praslin, La Digue, Curieuse.

Cinnamon Bittern *Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*

Vagrant. One record: Oct. Fregate (1).

Eurasian Bittern *Botaurus stellaris*

Vagrant. Two records: Oct–Nov. Aride 1, Praslin 1 (2).

Green-backed Heron *Butorides striatus*

Breeds throughout Seychelles. Endemic race *B. s. degens* in granitic islands and endemic race *B. s. craufordi* in Aldabra group and probably Amirantes.

Indian Pond-heron *Ardeola grayii*

Vagrant. Two records: May–Nov. Mahe 1, Bird 1 (2).

Malagasy Pond-heron *Ardeola idae*

Breeds Aldabra. Vagrant elsewhere. One record: Nov–Mar. Aride (1 bird).

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*

Vagrant. Four records: Mar, May, Oct. Mahe (4).

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*

Breeds throughout Seychelles. Endemic race *B. i. seychellarum* breeds granitic islands, Coetivy, Bird. Race *B. i. ibis* breeds Farquhar, Aldabra.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Race *E. g. dimorpha* resident Aldabra group. Unknown race vagrant to granitic islands. Thirteen records: Jan–May, Oct, Nov. Mahe 11, La Digue 1, Fregate 1 (25).

Great White Egret *Egretta alba*

Vagrant. Four records: Oct, Nov, Feb. Praslin 2, Mahe 1, Aldabra 1 (4).

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

Resident throughout Seychelles.

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*

Vagrant. Ten records: Feb, Apr, Sept, Oct, Nov. Bird 3, La Digue 3, Mahe 2, Aride 1, Curieuse 1 (10).

White Stork *Ciconia ciconia*

Vagrant. Four records: Dec–Feb. Mahe 2, Bird 1, D'Arros 1 (8).

Sacred Ibis *Threskiornis aethiopicus*

Endemic race *T. a. abbotti* resident Aldabra. Race *T. a. aethiopicus* vagrant. One record: Feb. Aldabra (1).

Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus ruber*

Breeds Aldabra. Vagrant elsewhere. Three records: Jan–May, Oct, Dec. Mahe 1, Fregate 1, Farquhar 1 (3).

White-faced Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna viduata*

Vagrant. Three records: Sept, Apr, Jun. Aldabra (3).

Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*

Vagrant. One record: Dec. Mahe (1).

Northern Pintail *Anas acuta*

Vagrant. Four records: Feb, Nov, Dec. Mahe 2, Aride 1, Cousin 1 (10).

Garganey *Anas querquedula*

Annual migrant.

Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata*

Vagrant. Three records: Oct, Nov. Mahe 1, Fregate 1, Assumption 1 (3).

Black Kite *Milvus migrans*

Vagrant. Four records: Aug, Oct, Nov, Dec. Aldabra (4).

Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus*

Vagrant. Two records: Jan, Feb. Mahe 1, Fregate 1 (2).

Booted Eagle *Hieraetus pennatus*

Vagrant. One record: Nov. Mahe (1).

Lesser Kestrel *Falco naumanni*

Vagrant. One record: Apr–May. Praslin (1).

Madagascar Kestrel *Falco newtoni*

Resident Aldabra.

Seychelles Kestrel *Falco araea*

Resident Mahe, Praslin, Silhouette, La Digue. Endemic.

Eleonora's Falcon *Falco eleonorae*

Vagrant. Eight records: Oct–Feb Aldabra 6, Aride 1, Cousin 1 (10).



Eleonora's Falcon *Falco eleonorae*
Mark Andrews

Sooty Falcon *Falco concolor*

Vagrant. One record: Nov. Fregate (1).

Red-footed Falcon *Falco vespertinus*

Vagrant. One record: Nov. Bird (1).

Hobby *Falco subbuteo*

Vagrant. Four records: Nov–Jan, Dec. Mahe 2, Cousin 2 (4).

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*

Vagrant. One record: Nov. Cousin 1 (1).

Grey Francolin *Francolinus pondicerianus*

Resident Desroches, Coetivy. Introduced.

White-throated Rail *Dryolimnas cuvieri aldabranus*

Resident Aldabra. Endemic race.



White-throated Rail *Dryolimnas cuvieri aldabranus*,
Aldabra (Adrian Skerrett)

Corncrake *Crex crex*

Vagrant. Two records: Oct, Nov. Bird 1, Aride 1 (2).

White-breasted Waterhen

Amauromis phoenicurus

Vagrant. One record: Dec. Mahe (1).

Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*

Resident granitic islands.

Crab Plover *Dromas ardeola*

Annual migrant.

Eurasian Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*

Vagrant. Three records: All months. Mahe 2, Aldabra 1 (4).

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*

Vagrant. One record: Sept. Praslin (1).

Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola*

Vagrant. Three records: Oct, Nov, Jan. Praslin 2, Fregate 1 (3).

Oriental Pratincole *Glareola maldivarus*

Vagrant. Two records: Oct–Dec. Mahe 1, Praslin 1 (3).

Black-winged Pratincole *Glareola nordmanni*

Vagrant. Three records: Nov, Dec, Apr. Mahe 1, Fregate 1, Alphonse 1 (3).

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*

Vagrant. Six records: Oct–Nov, Jan. Mahe 4, Fregate 1, Cousin 1 (8).

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*

Annual migrant.

Lesser Sand-Plover *Charadrius mongolus*

Annual migrant.

Greater Sand-Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii*

Annual migrant.

Caspian Plover *Charadrius asiaticus*

Vagrant. Ten records: June, Aug–Mar. Praslin 4, Bird 2, Mahe 1, Fregate 1, Silhouette 1, Farquhar 1 (15). Two records with a caveat concerning the possibility of Oriental Plover *C. veredus*.

Oriental Plover *Charadrius veredus*

Vagrant. One record: Oct. Praslin (1).

Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva*

Annual migrant.

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*

Annual migrant.

Great Knot *Calidris tenuirostris*

Vagrant. Two records: Mar, Apr. Mahe (2).

Sanderling *Calidris alba*

Annual migrant.

Little Stint *Calidris minuta*

Annual migrant.

Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii*

Vagrant. Three records: Sept, Oct, Dec. Mahe 2, Bird 1 (3).

Long-toed Stint *Calidris subminuta*

Vagrant. One record: Nov. Mahe (1).

Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos*

Vagrant. Two records: Oct. Bird 1, Praslin 1 (2).

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata*

Vagrant. Two records: Oct–Feb, July. Mahe (2).

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*

Annual migrant.

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*

Vagrant. Eleven records: Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov. Mahe 3, Fregate 3, Cousin 2, Bird 2, Praslin 1 (11).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper *Tryngites subruficollis*

Vagrant. One record: Mar. Bird (1).

Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*

Vagrant. Four records: Oct, Dec, Jan, Feb. Mahe 2, La Digue 1, Fregate 1 (2). Two records with a caveat re possible African Snipe *G. nigripennis*.

Great Snipe *Gallinago media*

Vagrant. One record: Nov–Dec. Praslin (1).

Pintail Snipe *Gallinago stenura*

Vagrant. Two records: Mar, Nov. Mahe 1, Aldabra 1 (2). One record with a caveat re possible Swinhoe's Snipe *G. megalis*.

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*

Vagrant. Two records: Oct, Nov. Bird 1, Alphonse 1 (2).

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*

Annual migrant.

Little Curlew *Numenius minutus*

Vagrant. One record: Oct–Apr. Bird (1).

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

Annual migrant.

Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata*

Annual migrant.

Redshank *Tringa totanus*

Vagrant. One record: Feb. Mahe (1).

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*

Vagrant. Four records: Jan, May, Nov. Mahe (6).

Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

Annual migrant.

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*

Vagrant. Two records: Jan, Nov. Mahe (2).

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

Annual migrant.

Terek Sandpiper *Xenus cinereus*

Annual migrant.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

Annual migrant.

Grey-tailed Tattler *Heteroscelus brevipes*

Vagrant. One record: Apr. Mahe. (1).

Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

Annual migrant.

Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus*

Vagrant. Two records: Nov. Mahe 1, Denis 1 (2).

Arctic Skua *Stercorarius parasiticus*

Vagrant. Two records: Jan, Feb. Fregate 1, Bird 1 (2).

Antarctic Skua *Stercorarius antarcticus*

Annual migrant.

Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*

Vagrant. Eleven records: Dec, Jan, Feb. Mahe 6, Praslin 4, between Praslin and Cousin 1 (20).

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*

Annual migrant.

Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica*

Annual migrant.

Caspian Tern *Sterna caspia*

Breeds Aldabra. Annual Astove, Cosmoledo. Vagrant to rest of Seychelles with one record: Nov. Between Aride and Bird (1).

Swift Tern *Sterna bergii*

Breeds Aldabra and possibly Cosmoledo, Etoile, African Banks. Annual visitor elsewhere. One vagrant record showing characters of *S.b. velox*: Sept–Oct Bird (1).

Lesser Crested Tern *Sterna bengalensis*

Annual migrant.

Sandwich Tern *Sterna sanduicensis*

Vagrant. Three records: Dec. Mahe 2, Cousin 1 (3 birds).

Roseate Tern *Sterna dougallii*

Breeds Aride, African Banks, Etoile and possibly Farquhar. Annual elsewhere.



Roseate Tern *Sterna dougallii*
Mark Andrews

Common Tern *Sterna birundo*

Annual migrant.

Black-naped Tern *Sterna sumatrana*

Breeds Aldabra and possibly Astove, Cosmoledo, Farquhar, Providence, St Joseph's Atoll and African Banks. Vagrant. One record: June, Bird (1).

Bridled Tern *Sterna anaethetus*

Breeds Aride, Cousin, Cousine, Recif and some of the other smaller granitic islands. May also breed Cosmoledo. Has bred Bird (1994). Annual visitor elsewhere.

Sooty Tern *Sterna fuscata*

Breeds Aride, L'Ilot Fregate, Recif, Bird, African Banks, Etoile, Desnoeuifs, Farquhar, Cosmoledo. Annual visitor elsewhere.

Saunders' Tern *Sterna saundersi*

Annual migrant.

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybridus*

Vagrant. Three records: Mar, Apr. Mahe 2, La Digue 1 (3).

White-winged Black Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus*

Annual migrant.

Brown Noddy *Anous stolidus*

Breeds Aride, Cousin, Cousine, some of smaller granite islands, Bird, Denis, Amirantes, Farquhar, Aldabra group, Coetivy, Platte and Providence. Annual visitor elsewhere.

Lesser Noddy *Anous tenuirostris*

Breeds Aride, Cousin, Cousine, Bird and some smaller granitic islands. Also Remire, Marie-Louise.

Fairy Tern *Gygis alba*

Breeds throughout Seychelles.

Feral Pigeon *Columba livia*

Resident on larger granite islands and Assumption. Introduced.

Madagascar Turtle Dove *Streptopelia picturata*

Race *S. p. picturata*, possibly introduced from Madagascar, has inter-bred with the endemic race, *S. p. rostrata* to the extent that the latter probably no longer exists in its pure form; *S. p. picturata* and hybrids resident throughout the granitic islands. Birds of the endemic race *S. p. alabrana* of the Amirantes extinct, where today *S. p. picturata* resident on D'Arros and Remire only. Endemic race *S. p. coppingeri* resident Aldabra and Cosmoledo.

European Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur*

Vagrant. One record: Dec. Aldabra (1).

Barred Ground Dove *Geopelia striata*

Resident on all larger granitic islands, Bird, Denis, Coetivy, D'Arros, St Joseph, Desroches, Farquhar and Assumption. Introduced.

Comoro Blue Pigeon *Alectroenas sganzzini minor*

Resident Aldabra. Endemic race.

Seychelles Blue Pigeon *Alectroenas pulcherrima*

Resident larger wooded granitic islands. Endemic.

Black Parrot *Coracopsis nigra barklyi*

Resident Praslin and recorded regularly Curieuse. Endemic race.

Grey-headed Lovebird *Agapornis cana*

Vagrant or unsuccessful introduction. One record of unknown origin (presumably introduced): Apr. Assumption (1). Formerly introduced to granitic islands, now extinct.

Jacobin Cuckoo *Oxylophus jacobinus*

Vagrant. Two records: Mar, Dec. Bird 1, Fregate 1 (2).

Great Spotted Cuckoo *Clamator glandarius*

Vagrant. One record: Oct. Bird (1).

Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*

Vagrant. Seven records: Sept, Nov, Dec, Apr. Mahe 6, Aride 1 (7).

One record with a caveat concerning the possibility of Oriental Cuckoo *C. saturatus*.

Asian Lesser Cuckoo *Cuculus poliocephalus*

Vagrant. Two records: Nov, Dec. Mahe 1, Fregate 1 (2). One record with a caveat concerning the possibility of Madagascar Lesser Cuckoo *C. rochii*.

Malagasy Coucal *Centropus toulou insularis*

Resident Aldabra. Endemic race.

Barn Owl *Tyto alba*

Resident larger granitic islands. Introduced. Extinct Aldabra, where naturally colonised.

Seychelles Scops-owl *Otus insularis*

Resident Mahe. Endemic.

Brown Fish-owl *Ketupa zeylonensis*

Vagrant. One record: Nov. Mahe (1).

European Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus*

Vagrant. One record: Dec. Bird (1).

Madagascar Nightjar

Caprimulgus madagascariensis aldabrensis

Resident Aldabra. Endemic race.

Seychelles Swiftlet *Collocalia elaphra*

Resident Mahe, Praslin, La Digue and Felicite. Endemic.

White-throated Noddy *Hirundapus caudacutus*

Vagrant. One record: Nov. Mahe (2).

Common Swift *Apus apus*

Vagrant. Eleven records: Sept–Dec, Mar. Bird 5, Aldabra 3, Assumption 2, Fregate 1 (12). Nine records with a caveat concerning other all dark *Apus* swifts.

Pacific Swift *Apus pacificus*

Vagrant. Ten records: Oct, Nov, Jan, May. Bird 7, Fregate 2, Farquhar 1 (14).

Little Swift *Apus affinis*

Vagrant. One record: Dec. Mahe (1).

Blue-cheeked Bee-eater *Merops persicus*

Vagrant. Four records: Mar, May, Oct, Nov–Dec. Aldabra 1, Mahe 1, Bird 1, Cousin 1 (9).

European Roller *Coracias garrulus*

Vagrant. Fifteen records: Oct–Mar. Aldabra 4, Mahe 4, Praslin 3, Aride 2, Bird 1, African Banks 1 (16).

Broad-billed Roller *Eurystomus glaucurus*

Near-annual migrant to Aldabra group: vagrant elsewhere. Twenty nine records: Feb, Oct–Dec, Mar. Aldabra 22, Cosmoledo 3, Bird 2, Providence 1, Fregate 1 (31).

Greater Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla*

Vagrant. One record: Dec. Fregate (1).

Common Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*

Vagrant. Seven records: Nov, Dec, Jan, Mar, May, June. Fregate 3, Mahe 2, Aldabra 2 (9).

Mascarene Martin *Phedina borbonica*

Vagrant. Five records: Oct, Nov, May. Aldabra 2, 1 Assumption 1, Desnoeufs 1, Bird 1 (5).

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

Near-annual migrant. Thirty seven records: Sept–May. Aldabra 20, Fregate 7, Mahe 3, Aride 3, Assumption 1, Desnoeufs 1, Bird 1, between Praslin and Cousin 1 (68). Twenty seven records accepted with a caveat concerning other possible similar species.

Common House Martin *Delichon urbica*

Vagrant. Three records: Oct, Mar. Aldabra 2, Farquhar 1 (4).

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*

Vagrant. Eleven records: Oct–Dec, Feb–Apr. Aldabra 4, Mahe 4, Bird 2, Fregate 1 (12).

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

Vagrant. Three records: Oct, Nov. Bird 1, Fregate 1, Marie-Louise 1 (5).

White Wagtail *Motacilla alba*

Vagrant. Seven records: Nov–Jan, Mar. Mahe 3, Fregate 1, Aldabra 2, Bird 1 (9).

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*

Near-annual migrant. Thirty four records: Oct–Jan, Mar. Aldabra 11, Fregate 9, Mahe 3, Aride 3, Bird 3, La Digue 1, Cousin 1, African Banks 1, Etoile 1, Alphonse 1, (55).

Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus*

Vagrant. Nine records: Oct–Mar. Fregate 4, Praslin 2, Mahe 1, Bird 1, Alphonse 1 (19).

Red-whiskered Bulbul *Pycnonotus jocosus*

Resident Assumption. Introduced.

Seychelles Bulbul *Hypsipetes crassirostris*

Resident larger granitic islands. Endemic.

Madagascar Bulbul *Hypsipetes madagascariensis rostratus*

Resident Aldabra. Endemic race.

Seychelles Magpie Robin *Copsychus sechellarum*

Resident Fregate, Cousin. Endemic.

Common Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

Vagrant. Four records: Oct–Nov. Aride 2, Cousin 1, Bird 1 (4).

Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*

Vagrant. One record: Nov. Bird (1).

Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*

Near-annual migrant. Thirty records: Oct, Dec–Mar. Aldabra 23, Bird 4, Mahe 1, Fregate 1, Aride 1 (32). Three records with a caveat concerning possible Isabelline Wheatear *O. isabellina*.

Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina*

Vagrant. One record: Nov. Praslin (1).

Rock Thrush *Monticola saxatilis*

Vagrant. Two records: Oct. Fregate 1, Farquhar 1 (2).

Aldabran Brush Warbler *Nesillas aldabranus*

Resident Aldabra. Probably extinct. Endemic.

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

Vagrant. One record: Nov. Cousin (1).

Seychelles Warbler *Acrocephalus sechellensis*

Resident Cousin, Cousine, Aride. Endemic.

Icterine Warbler *Hippolais icterina*

Vagrant. One record: Nov. Aride (1).

Madagascar Cisticola *Cisticola cherina*

Resident Astove, Cosmoledo.

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*

Vagrant. One record: Nov. Fregate (1).

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*

Vagrant. Two records: Nov. Aldabra, Cousin (2).

Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*

Vagrant. One record: Oct. Aldabra (1).

Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*

Vagrant. One record: Dec. Curieuse (1).

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*

Vagrant. Seventeen records: Nov, Dec, Mar. Aldabra 14, Bird 1, Cousin 1, Aride 1 (19).

Seychelles Black Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone corvina*
Resident La Digue. Endemic.



Seychelles Black Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone corvina*
Mark Andrews

Seychelles Sunbird *Nectarinia dussumieri*
Resident granitic islands. Endemic.

Souimanga Sunbird *Nectarinia souimanga*
Resident Aldabra (endemic race *N. s. aldabrensis*), Assumption (endemic race *N. s. abbotti*) and Cosmoledo/Astove (Race *N. s. buchenorum*).

Madagascar White-eye *Zosterops maderaspatana*
Resident Aldabra (endemic race *Z. m. aldabrensis*) and Cosmoledo /Astove (Race *Z. m. maderaspatana*).

Seychelles Grey White-eye *Zosterops modesta*
Resident Mahe. Endemic.

European Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus*
Vagrant. Four records: Oct, Nov, Mar. Aldabra 2, Bird 1, Aride 1 (4).

Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio*
Vagrant. Two records: Mar. Aldabra 1, Cosmoledo 1 (2).

In addition to the above, five records have been accepted as *Ardeola* sp, five as Pratincole sp, two as Oriental/Collared Pratincole, one as Oriental/Black-winged Pratincole, one as Caspian/Oriental Plover, two as Knot sp, five as Snipe sp, one as Pomarine/Arctic Skua, one as Rufous/European Turtle Dove, eleven as Cuckoo sp, one as Scops Owl sp, two as *Merops superciliosus* superspecies, and two as Willow Warbler/Chiffchaff.

Further records will be published in *Birdwatch*, the quarterly journal of the Seychelles Bird Group and future reports and other details will be published in *Phelsuma* the annual scientific journal of the Nature Protection Trust of Seychelles (NPTS). Annual subscriptions are UK.£10 and £15 respectively, available

Lesser Grey Shrike *Lanius minor*
Vagrant. One record: Mar. Aldabra (1).

Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator*
Vagrant. One record: Apr. Aride (1).

Indian House Crow *Corvus splendens*
Resident Mahe. Recorded Bird, Silhouette, Praslin, Cousin and Aride. Introduced, but no recent sightings and possibly now eradicated.

Pied Crow *Corvus albus*
Resident Aldabra, Assumption, Cosmoledo.

Rose-coloured Starling *Sturnus roseus*
Vagrant. Two records: Oct-Feb. Fregate 1, Bird 1 (2).

Common Mynah *Acridotheres tristis*
Resident granitic islands. Introduced.

Yellow-fronted Canary *Serinus mozambicus*
Resident Assumption. Introduced.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*
Resident D'Arros, St. Joseph's Atoll, Desroches, Poivre, Marie-Louise, Desnoeufs, Alphonse, Bijoutier, St. Francois. Introduced.

Common Waxbill *Estrilda astrild*
Resident Mahe, La Digue, Alphonse and possibly St. Joseph. Formerly considered introduced but possibly a natural coloniser.

Common Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus*
Vagrant. One record: Oct. Aride (1).

Madagascar Fody *Foudia madagascariensis*
Resident granitic islands, Desroches, Poivre, D'Arros, St Joseph Atoll, Remire, Providence and Farquhar. Formerly considered introduced but possibly a natural coloniser.

Forest Fody *Foudia eminentissima aldabrana*
Resident Aldabra. Endemic race.

Seychelles Fody *Foudia sechellarum*
Resident Cousin, Cousine, Fregate, and introduced to D'Arros. Endemic.

Aldabra Drongo *Dicrurus aldabranus*
Resident Aldabra. Endemic.

Ortolan Bunting *Emberiza hortulana*
Vagrant. One record: Nov. Aride (1).

from Ron Gerlach, PO Box 207, Seychelles (cheques payable to NPTS).

The current members of the Seychelles Bird Records Committee are Ian Bullock, David Fisher, Ron Gerlach, John Phillips, Steve Rooke, Ian Sinclair, Adrian Skerrett and Don Turner. Consultants to the committee are Phil Chantler (Swifts), James Ferguson-Lees (Raptors), Peter Harrison (Seabirds), John Marchant (Waders), and Robert Prys-Jones (Museums).

Sightings should be reported to Adrian Skerrett at PO Box 336, Victoria, Mahe, Seychelles or at the address below. ↗

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